

Amendments to Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A printing method for locating tabs during a print job having multiple output sets, each said set including a plurality of sheets of tabbed ordered media having a repetitive sequence and a plurality of other sheets of media, the method comprising[[.]] printing the print job, said printing including the steps of:

selecting from multiple tab layout templates each having a bank of tabbed stock;

loading a tab layout template to initialize initializing a resumption pointer in a list of tabbed ordered media in a bank of tabs of said print job, said list having individual entries identifying each of the active tabbed ordered media of a respective said [[set]] bank, said resumption pointer designating a resumption sheet;

advancing said sheet pointer generating a new tab entry in a tab creator by cycling through a cycle of said entries on said list wherein each entry is designated an active tab or an inactive tab such that said active tab location has a page number and said inactive tab location does not have a page number beginning with said resumption sheet until said resumption sheet is again reached;

inserting text or graphics onto one or more of the tabs in the banks of tabs;

selecting a style for the text or graphics on each tab having text or graphics;

activating a tab by selecting a page in the document for designating the relative location of the active tab;

balancing [[the]] said active tabs for referencing said tab layout template between each subsequent resumption pointer;

feeding said of tabbed ordered media into a media path through the printer to an output destination at designated tab locations;

determining if each of said of tabbed ordered media have been delivered to said output destination and discarding inactive tabs;

setting ~~said resumption pointer for every entry in tab layout template~~ to a next said entry in said sheet list responsive to each said determining that a respective one of said of tabbed ordered media has been delivered; and repeating said ~~loading, iterating, initializing, printing, activating, balancing, feeding, determining, discarding and setting steps for each of said output sets in full banks such that if there are entries in a bank not assigned to the table that a blank is entered into the table for the rest of the tab entries in that bank of tabs.~~

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

storing a template of banks of tabs;
storing a name identifying each template; and
storing a position of each tab in each bank of tabs relative to the reference location of a document.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of ~~generating an inactive tab entry where the tab creator detects a blank line inserting text or graphics comprises receiving, storing or displaying data signals representative of text or graphics for the tab.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~wherein the further comprising a step of selecting a style for a text on a tab comprises comprising~~ selecting a type of font and a size of font for the text.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of balancing the tabs comprises evenly spacing the active tabs relative to the reference edge of the document.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of discarding the unused tabs comprises sending the unused tabs to a purge exit in a printer.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for adding tabs to a document and generating a tabulated document comprising:

storing a multipage document with a reference corner for locating tabs;

storing one or more tab layout templates, each template having a ~~of~~ bank(s) of potential tabs including entries ~~the size of each tab and the location of each tab relative to a reference corner of a stored multipage document;~~

selecting [[a]] one tab layout template [[of]] referencing a bank of potential tabs and having a number of entries, from the stored templates;

creating a bank of actual potential tab locations in a tab creator table by filling in each entry according to [[the]] tab related line-by-line information ~~in the template~~ to enable one or more active tabs by designating each potential tab location as active or inactive such that said active potential tab location has a page number and said inactive potential tab location does not have a page number;

placing each actual tab associated with said active potential tab location at one or more tab locations in the actual bank of tabs at the identified, selecting one or more page locators by entering a page number of the multipage document where tab will appear;

discarding each inactive tab associated with said inactive tab locations as needed with the inactive tabs exited to a purge exit before the next active tab is placed in the table adding indicia to the selected tabs; and

printing the selected tabs and discarding the unselected tabs.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 wherein the tabs are inserted at a position relative to the selected page and wherein that position is one of the group consisting of at, before, or after the selected page and wherein displaying locations of the tabs with respect to the reference corner of the multipage document.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 comprising the further step of adding one or more bank(s) of tabs from the selected tab template by identifying the first of a bank of tabs as active or not and if not then query the

next bank of tabs and if active query each tabular line in the bank separately to save time and resources.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 further comprising storing one or more indicia templates with sets of indicia corresponding to tabular indicia wherein position and size of the imagable area on the tab is variable and controlled by the tab creator not the template.

11. (Original) The method of claim 7 comprising the further step of removing banks of unused tabs.

12. (Original) The method of claim 7 comprising the further step of removing actual or logical banks of unused tabs.

13. (Currently Amended) A method of creating tabulated pages and inserting the tabulated pages into a document to tabulate the document comprising:

on a graphical user interface, adding a bank of ordered tabulated pages to a table, including a list of tabbed ordered media having individual entries identifying each of the tabbed ordered media of said bank;

generating a new tab entry in a tab creator by cycling through said entries on said list wherein each entry is designated an active tab or an inactive tab;

activating one or more active tabs by selecting a page in the multipage document for locating the tab;

balancing said active tabs for referencing said tab layout template using said tab creator;

entering text data for active tabs;

entering style data for selected tabs; and

designating the location of each tab relative to its selected page.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein the relative location of a tab is selected from the group of relative locations consisting of before, on and after the page.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for adding tabs to a document comprising the steps of

opening a graphical user interface for creating tabs;

selecting a potential tab layout template of a bank of potential tabs from the stored templates;

loading said potential tab layout template to initialize a list of potential tabs wherein the template includes individual entries identifying each of the potential tabs of said bank;

generating a new tab entry in a tab creator by cycling through said entries on said list wherein each entry is designated an active tab or an inactive tab such that said active tab location has a page number and said inactive tab location does not have a page number;

selecting a tab style template or specify the tab style attributes;

selecting a tab label template or creating tab text;

verifying that the labels of text fit the tabs;

activating one or more tabs to enable one or more active tabs by adding a document page number to identify the relative location of the tab; and

selecting the location of the tab relative to the page from the group consisting of before, on and after the page number.

16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for printing tabulated documents comprising:

a printer having supply bins for holding print stock in one bin and tab stock in another bin;

a memory for storing one or more templates of a bank of tabs including the position of each tab in each bank of tabs relative to the reference corner of a document and the size of each tab;

a computer program operable to select a template for a bank of tabs from the stored templates;

a display device for displaying a graphic user interface showing locations of tabs with respect to the reference location;

a tab creator for designating an active tab or an inactive tab
wherein said tab creator includes a list of tabbed ordered media having individual
entries identifying each of the tabbed ordered media of said bank;

 said computer program further operable to activate one or more of the tab positions of the bank of tabs when said tab position is designated at a page of a multipage document;

 said computer program operable to add indicia to the activated tabs;

 a print engine for printing the document including inserting printed tabs with indicia into the document;

 discharge bins including one bin for receiving the printed, tabulated document and another bin for receiving unused tabs not activated by the computer program.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the memory further stores templates of labels for tabular indicia.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the memory further stores templates of styles for tabular indicia.

19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the memory further stores templates of banks of ordered tabular media.

20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17 further comprising means for removing banks of actual or logical unused tabs.